



The New Research Laboratories at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology

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THE MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

THE PROGRESS OF SCIENCE

THE NEW RESEARCH LABORATORIES AT THE MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

REALIZING that the law of physics and chemistry are the basis of engineering, and believing that the future will see great advances in the art of applying science to human welfare, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology has taken a significant step in preparing for these developments by the building of new research laboratories for physics and chemistry. Being built from a fund provided by Mr. George Eastman, these laboratories are named "The George Eastman Research Laboratories."

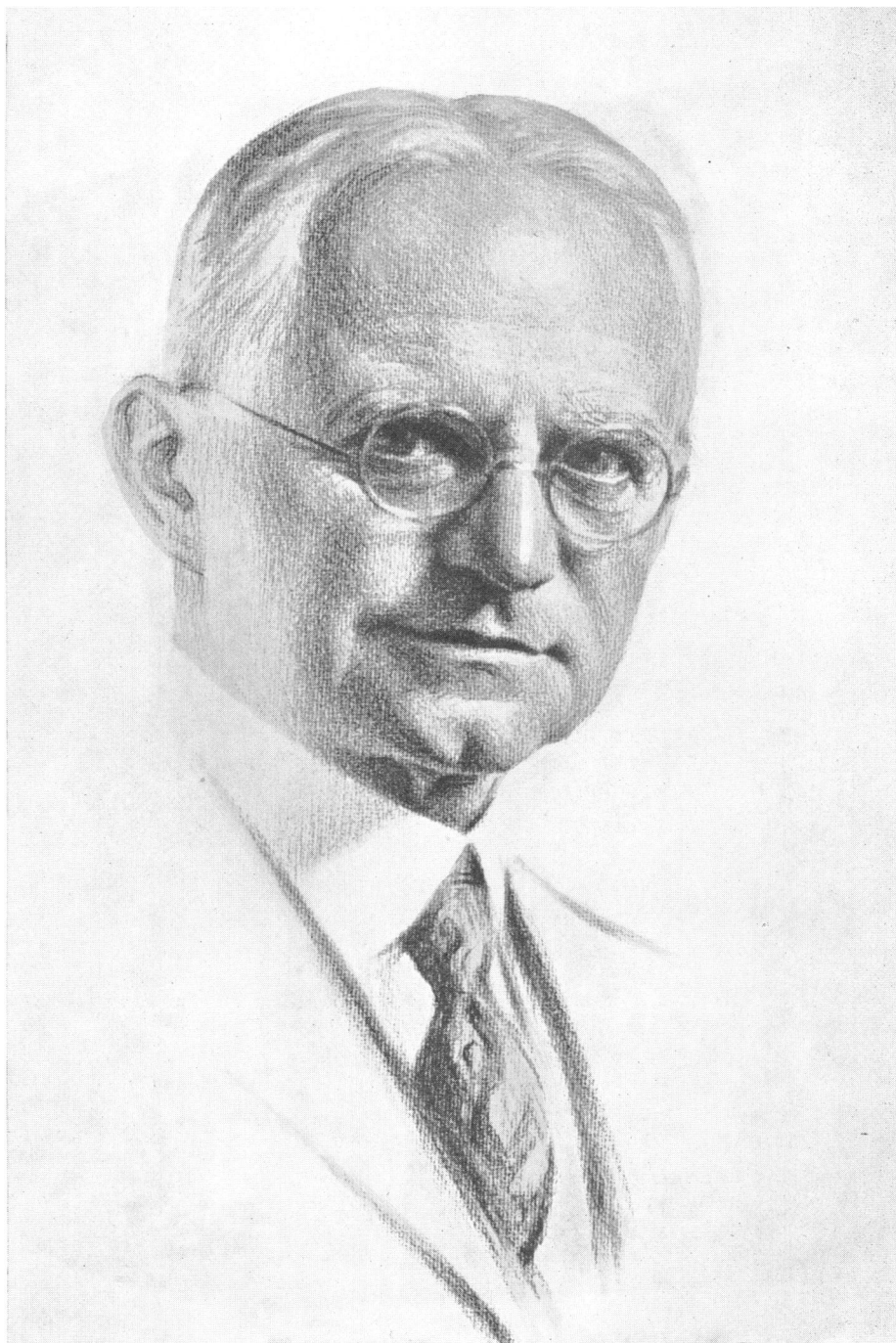
The main laboratory is a building 300

feet long, varying from 60 to 75 feet in width, and five stories high, including basement. One half of this building is assigned to advanced work in physics and the other to advanced work in chemistry. Adjoining and connected to the physics side of the main building is a specially designed spectroscopy laboratory about 100 by 60 feet and two stories high. The buildings are faced with limestone and are of reenforced concrete construction.

These laboratories have been designed with great care to minimize disturbance



THE GEORGE EASTMAN RESEARCH LABORATORIES
NEARING COMPLETION WHEN THIS PHOTOGRAPH WAS TAKEN IN MARCH.



GEORGE EASTMAN
WHO PROVIDED THE FUNDS FOR THE LABORATORIES, BUT DIED BEFORE
THE BUILDINGS WERE COMPLETED.

from vibrations arising either within the buildings or transmitted from the outside. The entire spectroscopy laboratory and also several research rooms for physical chemistry are enclosed by thick layers of cork for heat insulation. This is so effective that the most violent changes of temperature would not affect the inside of the rooms by a rate of more than 1 degree in about three months. Special temperature controls and air-conditioning arrangements are provided.

Two features of the new laboratories are deserving of special mention. One is an unusually adequate and convenient arrangement of a departmental library for physics, chemistry and mathematics, with a reading room, stack rooms and a large number of small cubicles with desks for study in the stack rooms. Adjoining this library are a series of small offices for men engaged

in research work of a theoretical nature.

The second special feature is a very attractively furnished social room with an adjoining kitchenette, which has been made possible through the generosity of Mrs. Forris Jewett Moore, and is designed to make the study of chemistry and the allied sciences more attractive. This room will serve as a social headquarters for the advanced students and faculty of the chemistry and physics departments, and will thus provide a type of educational contact which is coming to be recognized as very advantageous.

With the aid of these splendidly designed and equipped laboratories, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology hopes to make a significant contribution to the future development of pure and applied science.

KARL T. COMPTON

THE BATTELLE MEMORIAL INSTITUTE

A MEMORIAL laboratory endowed with sufficient funds to carry on an extensive program of research in the fields of metallurgy and fuels and yet offering facilities for research sponsored by industry or individuals is indeed a unique institution.

The possibilities of such an institution were conceived by Gordon Battelle, a young industrialist who died in his early forties a number of years ago. By his will he established Battelle Memorial Institute as a research institute directing that it specialize in metallurgy, fuels and allied fields. He also directed that it be staffed with experts in the chosen fields and equipped to conduct a program of research on its endowment funds, and have facilities for research by others available at nominal cost well within the reach of all.

His idea of such a dual functioning was well founded. It enables the staff

to have the direct broadening contact with industry that is essential to good work in these fields. Without such contacts any group is apt to become ultra-scientific to the point of overlooking the more practical aspects of research. It is because of these features that Battelle Memorial Institute has been said to be among the ideal institutions for research in this country.

The memorial research laboratory, completed about a year ago, is modern in every respect and provides some 90,000 square feet of floor space especially designed for the purpose intended. The architecture is of the Roman Ionic type effected by a pleasing combination of brick and limestone. The building is located on King Avenue adjacent to Ohio State University where contact with the scientific atmosphere of this institution is helpful.

The first floor of the front section of